

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

REGION 8
999 18TH STREET - SUITE 300
DENVER, CO 80202-2466
<http://www.epa.gov/region08>

Ref: 8EPR-SR

July 14, 2000

John Stephen Harper
3446 Josephine Street
Denver, CO 80205

Subject: Delay in Scheduled Soil Cleanup for 3446 Josephine Street

Dear John Stephen Harper:

I'm writing to provide you with information about the delay in the scheduled cleanup of your yard. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) expected to have funds available to begin work this spring. Instead, we were recently informed that funds would not be available until September. I understand the frustration this can cause and apologize for the unforeseen delay. EPA will still clean up your yard this year.

Our current plan is to meet with you in August to discuss the cleanup process, answer questions, address concerns, and do preliminary work required before removing the soil at your property. Pete Stevenson will be making these visits and managing the cleanups. He plans to begin the actual cleanup work in September when funding is available, and it could take a few months to complete all the cleanups.

In the meantime, there are things that you can do to minimize contact with soil, and reduce risks to you and your family. Some examples include:

- Wash your hands often, especially children's hands. Wash hands before eating, after playing outside, and after petting dogs or other outdoor pets;
- Keep your home free of dust. Damp mop and dust regularly;
- Wash children's outdoor toys;
- Wash all home garden produce;
- Wash dogs regularly;
- Do not eat food or smoke when working in the yard;
- Maintain good grass cover in the yard.

The best way to be sure that you and your family members are not being exposed to unsafe levels of arsenic or lead from the soil is to measure the levels of arsenic in your urine and/or hair, and the level of lead in your blood. EPA will continue to offer this testing to you and

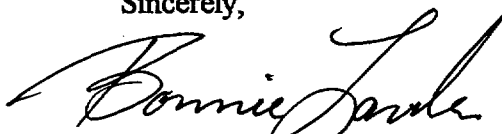


your family until the cleanups are completed. This service is voluntary and free. If you choose to have the measurements taken, you will need to go the Concentra Medical Center on 58th Street so that the required samples can be collected by a trained health technician. A map showing the location of the clinic is attached. For each member of your family, all you need to do is fill out the attached form with their name and address and take the form and the enclosed voucher to the clinic. I will provide the results of the testing to you as soon as they are reported to EPA.

EPA will also offer additional soil sampling in gardens if you are concerned about gardening this summer. We have found that gardens tend to have lower levels of arsenic and lead in the soil. Please contact us if you want more information on gardening or getting your garden sampled.

Once again, I apologize for the delays. We hope that this does not create additional stress in your lives over the next months. Please feel free to contact Ted Fellman at (303) 312-6119 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Bonnie Lavelle".

Bonnie Lavelle
Remedial Project Manager

Enclosures